

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00
NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 ACDA-10 IO-13 /087 W
-----111732Z 019916 /53

O 111640Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3760
INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

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FOR S/PRS; DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL
AND NSC FOR MR. SCHECTER; USIA FOR IPS/PE, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R) US, UK
SUBJECT: VANCE-ALLON POST-LUNCHEON PRESS STATEMENT,
AMERICAN EMBASSY, LONDON, MAY 11, 1977

VANCE: I HAVE JUST FINISHED A DISCUSSION WITH MY OLD
FRIEND, FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON, WHO IS ONE OF THE
DISTINGUISHED LEADERS NOT ONLY OF HIS OWN COUNTRY BUT
IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THIS IS PART OF OUR CONTINUING
CONVERSATIONS RELATING TO OUR SEARCH FOR A JUST AND
LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WE REVIEWED OUR
DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER PARTIES WHICH WE HAVE HAD SINCE
THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND I MET LAST TIME AND I SHALL BE
GOING BACK IN THE FUTURE TO THE AREA AFTER WE HAVE
COMPLETED ALL OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ARAB FOREIGN
LEADERS. I WOULD LIKE TO NOTE THAT I HAVE SEEN SOME
SPECULATION IN SOME OF THE PAPERS TO THE EFFECT THAT
THE UNITED STATES MIGHT IMMOOSE A SETTLEMENT ON THE
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PARTIES. WE HAVE MADE IT VERY CLEAR FROM THE OUTSET
THAT NO SUCH THING IS INTENDED IN ANY WAY. WE HAVE
SAID, BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND I, ON MANY OCCASIONS THAT
IF THERE IS TO BE A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE
MIDDLE EAST, THEN IT MUST BE DETERMINED BY THE PARTIES
IN NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THEMSELVES. WE WILL HELP TO
FACILITATE THAT PROCESS AND WILL WORK WITH THE PARTIES

TO THAT END. I HAVE ALSO NOTICED SOME SPECULATION IN THE NEWSOAPERS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT IN OUR ARMS TRANSFER POLICY WHICH WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON AND WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE FUTURE, THAT THIS MAY IN SOME WAY HARM ISRAEL. THAT IS NOT THE CASE. WE HAVE MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT WE HAVE A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL, WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL AND AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST WE WILL IN THE FUTURE MAKE SURE THAT ISRAEL HAS THE DEFENCE ARTICLES NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THAT SECURITY INCLUDING THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY WHICH WILL BE REQUIRED. I WANT TO MAKE THIS VERY, VERY CLEAR.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, THE REPORTS HAVE NOT SPOKEN OF ANY ATTEMPT BY THE UNITED STATES TO IMPOSE A SOLUTION BUT RATHER TO SET THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION GOING IN SUCH A WAY THAT SOME CONCESSIONS WILL BE LIKELY MADE BY ISRAEL OR THE OTHER PARTIES BEFORE THE ACTUAL FACE TO FACE NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN. IS THERE ANY ACTUAL PROCESS OF GIVE AND TAKE GOING FORWARD. FOR EXAMPLE, IS THERE A PROPOSAL FOR ISRAEL TO RECOGNISE THE.....FOR THE PLO TO RECOGNISE THE STATE OF ISRAEL IN EXCHANGE FOR ISRAEL RECOGNISING A PALESTINIAN STATE.

VANCE: THERE HAVE BEEN NO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS MADE BY EITHER SIDE AT THIS TIME. AS I HAVE INDICATED EARLIER WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING THE GENERAL VIEWS OF THE PARTIES. I WOULD HOPE THAT AT A LATER DATE THERE WILL BE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FROM ALL OF THE PARTIES WHICH

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WE WILL THEN DISCUSS INITIALLY AMONG THEM AND AT THAT TIME MAY HAVE SOME SUGGESTIONS OF OUR OWN.

QUESTION: WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY THAT TERM "HOMELAND FOR PALESTINIANS", OR THE PRESIDENT WHEN DEFINING THAT TERM?

VANCE: THE PRESIDENT INDICATED THAT.. THAT TIME THAT IT MEANT JUST WHAT IT SAID AND THAT THE ACTUAL DEFINITION OF THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE BY THE PARTIES IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP"?

VANCE: WE WERE AT THE VERY OUTSET OF ISRAEL'S BIRTH ONE OF THOSE THAT HELPED TO BRING IT INTO BEING. WE HAVE BEEN VERY CLOSE TO ISRAEL. WE SHARE THE SAME VALUES, WE SHARE THE SAME HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS, AND WE HAVE BEEN THE CLOSEST OF FRIENDS THROUGH ALL OF THESE

YEARS AND WILL IN THE FUTURE AS WELL.

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QUESTION: COULD WE ASK MR. ALLON. DO YOU FEEL THERE
IS ANY DANGER OF ISRAEL BECOMING DIPLOMATICALLY ISOLATED
BY THIS PROCESS THAT IS NOW GOING FORWARD?

ALLON: WELL I SEE NO REASON FOR BEING ISOLATED, BECAUSE
FOR THE TIME BEING ISRAEL IS THE ONLY OARTY TO THE MIDDLE
EASTERN CONFLICT WHICH MADE IT PUBLIC THAT SHE IS READY
TO OFFER TERRITORIAL COMPROMISES IN RETURN FOR A LASTING
PEACE AGREEMENT. OUR POSITION IS BEING EXPLAINEMD TO OUR
FRIENDS ALL OVER THE WORLD AND AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED
THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE COULD HAVE BEEN RECONVENED
LONG AGO. SO WE ARE IN A GOOD POSITION VIS-A-VIS OUR
FRIENDS.

QUESTION: MR. ALLON, DO YOU FEEL THAT THE NEW AMERICAN
ADMINISTRATION HAS A NEW ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE MIDDLE
EAST AND IF SO, HOW DO YOU LIKE IT COMPARED TO THE
FORD/KISSINGER ATTITUDE.

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ALLON: IF YOU LISTEN CAREFULLY TO WHAT SECRETARY CYRUS VANCE HAS SAID JUST NOW ABOUT A "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" ABOUT THE ROLE THAT AMERICA IS PLAYING IN THE (INAUDIBLE) OF PEACEMAKING IN THE MIDDLE EAST, I THINK IT IS A VERY POSITIVE DEFINITION OF AMERICA'S ROLE AND WE ARE VERY... (INAUDIBLE).

QUESTION: MR. ALLON, WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ABOUT THE AMERICAN PLAN AS SECRETARY VANCE HAS ENUNCIATED. DO YOU THINK IT IS A GOOD IDEA?

ALLON: WELL, I HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NOT INTENDING TO COME OUT WITH A PLAN OF ITS OWN, THAT THE AGREEMENT SHOULD BE REACHED BY THE PARTIES CONCERNED AND THE UNITED STATES WILL FACILITATE WITH ITS GOOD OFFICES THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE HOPE FOR PEACE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED AND REALISED.

QUESTION: DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT GOING TO PUT OUT ANY IDEAS, AT LEAST OUBLICLY....HOW THE SITUATION (INAUDIBLE)?

VANCE: AS I HAVE INDICATED PREVIOKTLY THAT WE WILL HAVE SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE. WE WILL MAKE THE SUGGESTIONS TO THE PARTIES.

QUESTION: WOULD YOU AGREE WITH THE DEFINITION OF MR. CARTER, PRESIDENT CARTER, THAT MODERATE LEADERS ARE RULING NOW, ARE IN POWER NOW OVER THE ARAB COUNTRIES.

ALLON: WELL, THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO EXPRESS MODERATION IS BY PROPOSING MODERATE POLICIES AND SOLUTIONS AND I DO HOPE THAT ARAB LEADERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST BECOME MORE REALISTIC AS A RESULT OF THE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST OF THE LAST YEARS. SINCE PRESIDENT CARTER HAD THE CHANCE TO MEET WITH EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ARAB LEADERS AND I DIDN'T YET, SO HE IS IN A BETTER POSITION TO JUDGE. NEVERTHELESS, I AM VERY ANXIOUS TO GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR MODERATION AROUND THE CONFERENCE TABLE AS SOON AS OOSSIBLE.

QUESTION: MR. VANCE, COULD I ASK YOU TO CLARIFY YOUR EARLIER STATEMENT ABOUT THE ARMS SALES QUESTION?

VANCE: I THOUGHT IT WAS CLEAR.

QUESTION: ARE YOU MEANING TO SAY THEN THAT ISRAEL WILL
BE GIVEN THE SAME PRIORITY IN OUR ARMS TRANSFERS AS
THE NATO COUNTRIES ARE NOW?

ALLON: DO YOU THINK IT IS ENOUGH? (LAUGHTER)

VANCE: I THINK I MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT THEY WILL
RECEIVE AND HAVE FROM US WHATEVER IS REQUIRED FOR
THEIR SECURITY, I SAID, INCLUDING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.

QUESTION: COULD YOU REOEAT THAT?

VANCE: I SAID THAT I THOUGHT I HAD MADE IT VERY CLEAR
THAT WE WILL MAKE AVAILABLE TO ISRAEL WHATEVER IS
NEEDED FOR THEIR SECURITY INCLUDING ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGY.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
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